

Annual Report 2016



Bossier Parish
POLICE JURY



“Of the People, by the People, for the People”

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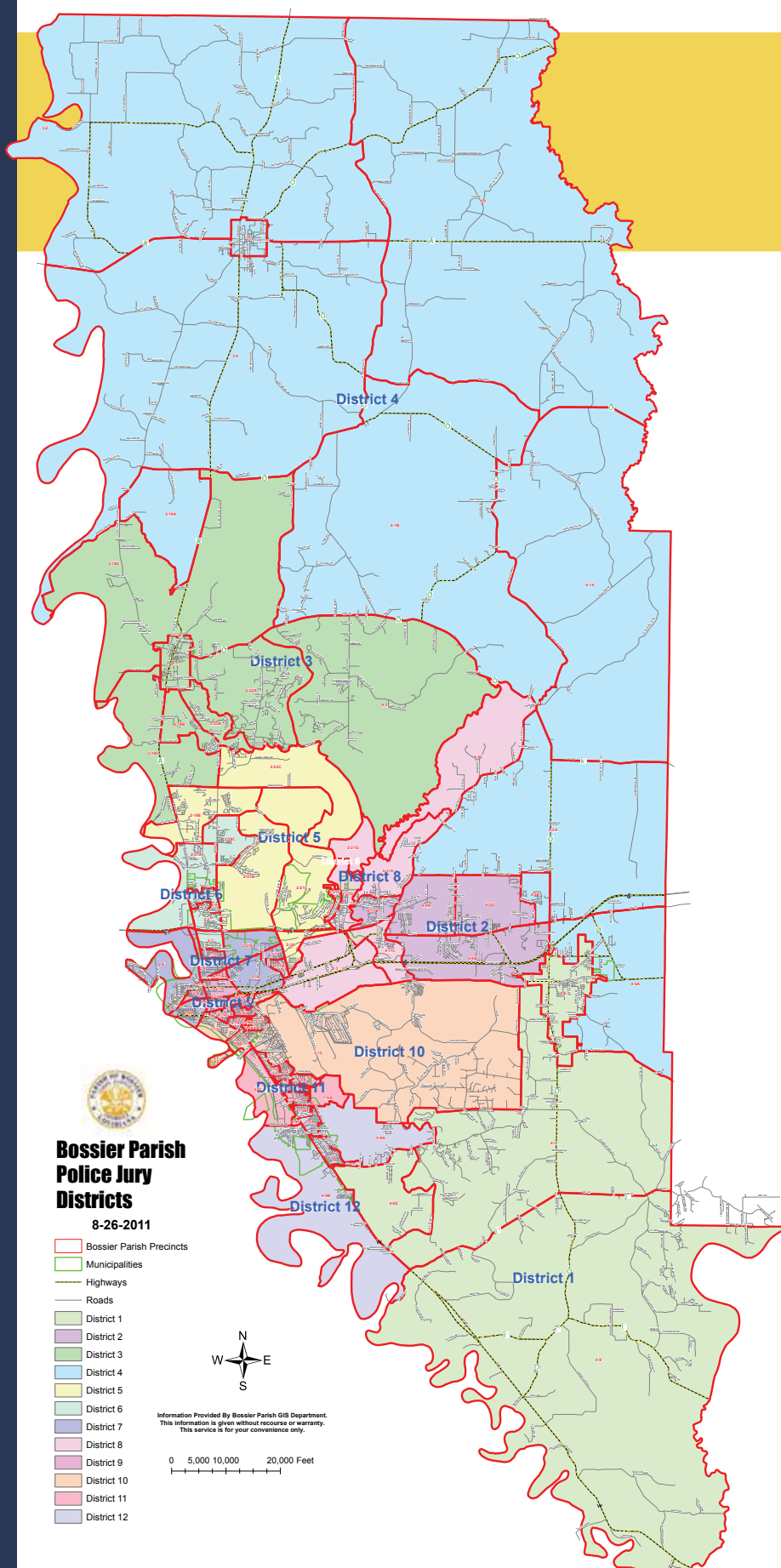
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To contact us, and to follow Police Jury activities:

PHONE: (318) 965-2329

WEBSITE: www.bossierparishla.gov

And, keep up with us on Facebook and Twitter



It is our pleasure to present this 2016 ANNUAL REPORT on behalf of the Bossier Parish Police Jury to the citizens of Bossier Parish. This report will describe the various activities that have taken place by this organization this past year along with a look toward the future.



Bossier Parish is continuing to experience growth and is known statewide as one of the fastest growing parishes in Louisiana. With growth comes opportunities as well as challenges. There is a constant demand on services and infrastructure due to this growth that the police jury addresses with its internal funding, along with whatever funds become available from the State of Louisiana and the Federal Government. Unfortunately, these outside sources of funding have become harder and harder to procure.

In spite of this situation in which we find ourselves, the Parish has committed to numerous projects to improve the quality of life for the folks who call this parish home.

Over the last couple of years the parish has undertaken a sewer project that crosses the parish from Hwy. 157 in the Haughton area to the Red River. At this time, we are nearing completion of this \$55 million dollar project which will not only clean up the environment by closing numerous oxidation ponds, but will open up large areas of the parish for development with the introduction of this public service.

The jury feels the completion of this project, the largest ever undertaken by any Bossier Parish police jury in history, will set the table for continued, improved growth in the parish.

Work is continuing with a soon to be let clearing and grubbing project on our Swan Lake Road extension which is going to begin in 2017. This project will improve and increase the capacity of moving people north and south in the central part of the parish, relieving traffic currently found on Hwy. 3 and the Linton Road-Airline Dr. corridor into and from Bossier City.

Improvements have been made to the various parks located within the parish and this work will be continued in 2017. These improvements can be found at the Tall Timbers Park off Hwy. 80, the South Bossier Park located off Caplis Silgo Road and the Parish Camp found on Lake Bistineau. A 2.1-mile extension of the pedestrian walking trail along the Arthur Ray Teague Parkway from the CenturyTel Arena to the Red River Wildlife Refuge will be finished for use in the first quarter of 2017.

In association with Bossier City, the parish has combined resources and has participated with the continued development of the Cyber Research Park located between I-20 and Hwy. 80. This year will see the opening of the new CSRA building which will house 800 IT people, and in 2017 we will see the completion of the new Bossier Parish Community College building to assist in the training of medical technicians for our region. This effort is the City's and Parish's attempt to help diversify and

provide the opportunity for good paying jobs in our area, plus allow our kids to stay home after they complete their higher education.

One of the parish's greatest assets is the ability of the various organizations to work together, including the City, the Towns, Sheriff's Dept., School Board, Fire Districts, 911, and EMS to make things happen for the betterment of our citizens. This ability takes hard work, and more importantly, the willingness to do so in order to act as one force to get done what needs to be done. The two flood events over the last two years are examples of the different entities coming together in very difficult situations and overcoming them to minimize loss of life and property.

Our mission at the Police Jury is to meet the needs of every citizen of Bossier Parish and to continue to improve our quality of life. We welcome suggestions and urge citizens to stay in touch with us.



BILL ALTIMUS
PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

WANDA BENNETT, PRESIDENT

DISTRICT 3



I am pleased to serve as president of the Bossier Parish Police Jury for the year 2016. I would also like to review the preceding year that was a test of our planning, resources and manpower. The year 2015 saw flooding of the Red River and with it, a tough look at how well the situations were handled. The resilience of all departments within the parish, how we pull together, go to work and get the job done never ceases to amaze me. Personally, I give the parish an A grade for 2015.

I measured how far behind we were with the plan of work for 2015, but quickly found that everyone buckled down to do the job at hand. We were ready to begin the plan for 2016 when Mother Nature delivered another blow in the form of flooding that was described as historical. In fact, the floods were said to be a 1,000 year-event that affected more people and places than we at first believed possible.

Again, all departments and agencies were there to do whatever was needed to help our Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness with the manpower and resources necessary to care for the needs of our residents. Additionally, the Red Cross, Salvation Army and Christian services from across the United States joined us in the trenches within a matter of hours.

Dedication and determination was the mantra of the people. We were blessed to witness neighbor helping neighbor. Our roads and highways within the flooded areas had to be repaired and reconstructed, and the state began a program of repair or replacement of bridges in the parish.

Although residents and police jury staff were tired, no one complained and no one quit working. Bossier people and parish employees never give up. We all had a job to do for each other and we stayed loyal to that calling.

After reviewing our efforts during the flooding, we purchased a new sandbag machine in order to fill and store bags more quickly and efficiently for areas that are likely to flood. We also approved the purchase and refitting of large containers to be placed throughout the parish so that sandbags can be stored longer and be more readily available for our residents who need them quickly.

In September, we watched a product demonstration that might give us another method to protect roads, levees and homes. We have learned from the events of the past two years that planning ahead is critical for the safety of our residents.

Even while we were combating floodwaters and their aftermath, work continued on our parish-wide sewer system. We are moving away from privately owned sewer systems that could

“My term as president will come to a close at the end of this year. I am confident that whatever challenges 2017 brings, from Mother Nature or other sources, your Bossier Parish Police Jury will take care of business and come out on top.”

no longer meet the standards set by the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the state Dept. of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Parish operation of the wastewater treatment system will ensure a better, safer system for our citizens.

Zoning for new growth has not slowed and the infrastructure is being put in place as we have the money to build.

I am asked practically every day when we will have a third north/south road ready. We have completed the right-of-way work up to Flat River and we have begun purchasing property to move forward as quickly as possible. We are also continuing plans for east/west travel as part of moving traffic safely and smoothly through the parish.

I want to praise our Parish Administrator and his team for good planning, good business decisions and their extra efforts to meet every need in a timely manner. The team has the vision for forward thinking and the ability to get things done.

Also, I want to praise my fellow jurors for putting in the time needed to do the job you, our citizens, can be proud of. All decisions by the jurors have been in the

best interest of our residents and to meet the future needs of parish government. I am proud to be a part of delivering to the people of Bossier Parish a governing body that puts its citizens first.



Wanda Bennett presents a plaque of appreciation to Janet Burks, who retired as Bossier Parish Registrar of Voters.

POLICE JURORS

DISTRICT 1



Bob Brotherton

DISTRICT 2



Glenn Benton

DISTRICT 3



Wanda Bennett

DISTRICT 4



Sonny Cook

DISTRICT 5



Jack Skaggs

DISTRICT 6



Rick Avery

In Memory of
Wayne Hammack, 1940-2016,
member of the Bossier Parish Police Jury
serving District 11 from 1984-2016. RIP.



DISTRICT 7



Jimmy Cochran

DISTRICT 8



Doug Rimmer

DISTRICT 9



Fred Shewmake, Jr.

DISTRICT 10



Jerome Darby

DISTRICT 11



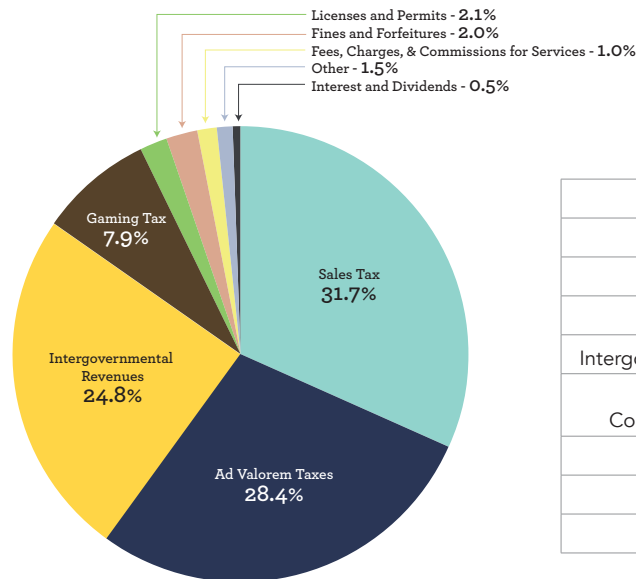
Tom Salzer

DISTRICT 12



Paul M. Plummer

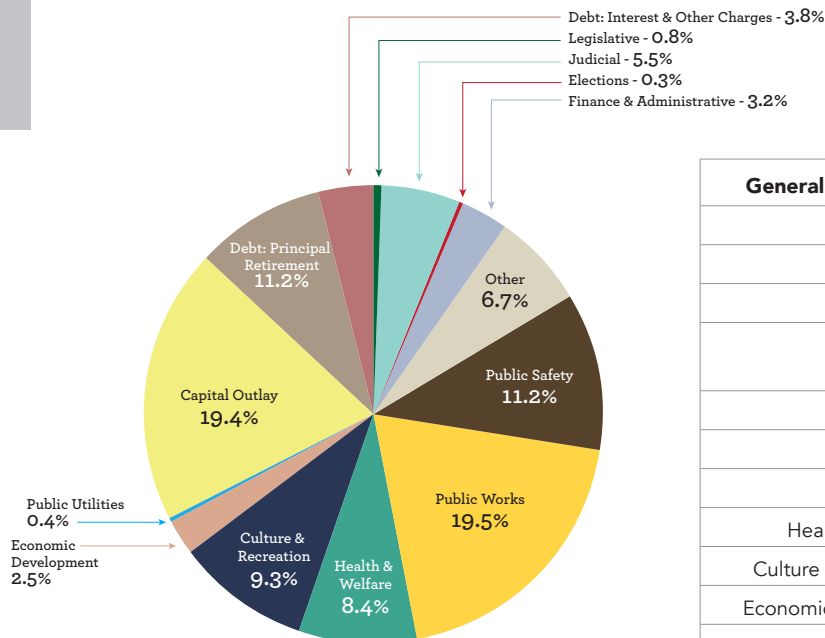
WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM



REVENUES BY SOURCE
Year Ended December 31, 2015

Ad Valorem Taxes	\$14,893,745	28.4%
Sales Taxes	\$16,638,701	31.7%
Gaming Tax	\$4,158,270	7.9%
Licenses & Permits	\$1,120,753	2.1%
Intergovernmental Revenues	\$13,014,342	24.8%
Fees, Charges, & Commissions for Services	\$537,251	1%
Fines & Forfeitures	\$1,065,019	2%
Interest & Dividends	\$257,706	.5%
Other	\$810,148	1.5%
TOTAL	\$52,495,935	100%

WHERE THE MONEY GOES



REVENUES BY MAJOR FUNCTION
Year Ended December 31, 2015

General Government:		
Legislative	\$400,085	0.8%
Judicial	\$2,905,611	5.5%
Elections	\$172,676	0.3%
Finance and Administrative	\$1,687,666	3.2%
Other	\$3,529,454	6.7%
Public Safety	\$5,916,473	11.2%
Public Works	\$10,260,418	19.5%
Health and Welfare	\$4,431,677	8.4%
Culture and Recreation	\$4,878,821	9.3%
Economic Development	\$1,311,394	2.5%
Public Utilities	\$195,582	0.4%
Capital Outlay	\$10,214,501	19.4%
Debt Service:		
Principal Retirement	\$4,833,000	9.2%
Interest and Other Charges	\$1,984,093	3.8%
TOTAL	\$52,721,451	100.0%

Bossier Parish's Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit (CVEU) was created in 2009 by the parish police jury.

The primary duty of the department is to regulate commercial motor vehicle traffic on all roadway systems in Bossier Parish. This includes size and weight, as well as any other public safety issues involving the trucking industry.

Personnel in the CVEU are POST certified like other law enforcement officers and are commissioned through the Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office. Four full-time employees staff the department, which is located at 200 Burt Blvd. in Benton in the courthouse annex building.

Officers in the department have more than 50 years combined experience in law enforcement and continue to train regularly. CVEU personnel have also provided leadership in seminars, including a presentation for the Louisiana State Police Motor Carrier Safety Section.

Primary concerns of the Police Jury CVEU are the safety of the residents and the commercial vehicles that travel the more than 800 miles of Bossier Parish roads, and to help maintain safe roads in the parish.



(From left) Officer John Cloud, CVEU Commander Russell Craig, Administrative Assistant Brandi Baker, Officer William Mott.

- Through the month of September, 2016, **290 permits** for oversized loads and **716 permits** for overweight loads were issued by the CVEU.
- A total of nearly **90 million pounds** (89,745,160) were permitted to travel over Bossier Parish roadways.
- CVEU field personnel are also empowered by ordinance to issue citations when necessary. Through September, **215 citations** totaling **\$61,523** were issued. CVEU officers also weighed **77 trucks** traveling on Parish roads.
- As commissioned officers, CVEU personnel have issued **50 complaint affidavits** through the Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office.



(From left) Asst. Treasurer Charlotte Bouillion, Administrative Accountant Deborah Starks, Staff Accountant Jim Kent, Treasurer Sheryl Thomas, Accounts Payable, Renee McKinney and Payroll, Vickie Meek.

Bossier's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness continues to focus on community preparedness and vulnerability reduction.

Mission statement of BOHSEP is to provide Bossier Parish and the communities within the parish the ability to prepare for, protect against, respond to and recover from actual or threatened natural and man-made incidents.

BOHSEP's vision is to have a more resilient parish by assisting the first responders and community partners where and when necessary. Also, the office wants to maintain working relationships with any state and federal agency to ensure a coordinated emergency response will be in place to enhance effective operations that protect citizens and help reestablish parish infrastructure during and after an emergency.

The year 2015 was an extremely wet year in the area and in the region. The parish received heavy rainfall in the upper

watersheds in Oklahoma and Texas that created high water conditions on the Red River and flooding along the Bossier Parish portion of the river. A crest of 37.14 feet was recorded that caused high waters in our inland tributaries, lakes and streams into the Spring of 2016.

In 2016, this wet pattern continued as predicted by the National Weather Service. In February, the Bossier Levee District, along with the Police Jury and others, sandbagged portions of the guideline levee along Red Chute Bayou north of U.S. Hwy. 80 and south of the Dogwood bridge.

More rainfall followed in March with rainfall in Bossier Parish between March 8 and March 12 reported to be more than 20 inches. This, combined with saturated ground conditions caused by high water tributaries, caused flash flooding and backwater flooding as Red River water levels increased. When Police Jury President Wanda Bennett issued a Parish Emergency Declaration on March 8, our All Hazards Emergency Operations Plan was activated.

In Bossier Parish, 637 homes or structures were impacted by floodwaters. According to FEMA, 176 were damaged by hail, rain and wind-driven rain. The BOHSEP office had over 1,305 people register verifying they had damage due to this event.

During the emergency, Bossier Parish coordinated Points of Distributions (POD), Forward Assistance Centers (FAC) and one Logistical Emergency Assistance Point (LEAP). Sandbags, food, water, clothing and FEMA registrations for individual assistance were available at these centers.

Additionally, the BOHSEP office assisted a mobile home community with a



(From left) Ian Snellgrove, BOHSEP Director and Lt. Col. (Ret) Gene Barattini, Assistant Director.



water buffalo, providing them with potable drinking water. Using the East 80 Fire District 1 as a staging point, the office filled the tank daily for a week and the parish utilities department tested the water.

Emergency plan updates include a Parish Emergency Operations Plan, an all-hazards plan that is used during disasters. This plan replaces and updates the Caddo/Bossier Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness. The updated plan has resulted in an approximate savings

of \$36,000. The plan will be reviewed annually.

A Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies natural hazards that impact a community, the activities and actions needed to reduce losses from those hazards and establishes a coordinated process to implement the plans. The plan is under revision with funding from the state Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness.

To be compliant, a plan update is required on a five-year cycle

to remain eligible for mitigation project grant funds. Goals for the updated plan are to continue to promote disaster resilience, become a focal point of credible information and promote whole community hazard reduction and mitigation strategies.

BOHSEP performs annual plan reviews for nursing facilities in the parish and is joining the Bossier Parish Police Jury and Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office to revise parish courthouse emergency operations plans.

BOHSEP receives and manages two forms of funding sources annually from the federal government that are managed by the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness.

The Emergency Management Performance Grant assists state and local governments to enhance and sustain all-hazards emergency management capabilities.

The grant under the 2016 budget year for the parish police jury was
\$34,178.

State Homeland Security Program Grant is awarded to the police jury and historically is split between Bossier City and the Sheriff's Office. Funds are used to enhance the country's ability to prepare for, prevent, respond to and recover from potential attacks and other hazards.

The 2016 funding is
\$62,865.

As needed, Incident Command System and National Incident Management classes are taught at the Bossier office. A total of **11 classes** were presented to **107 students**, including two classes for **Barksdale Air Force Base Senior Commander ICS 300 Executive Overview.**

BOHSEP also conducts several training meetings at local businesses with the Bossier City Police Dept. and/or Sheriff's Office.

A brief on the 2015 flood event was presented to the **Red River Valley Waterway Association** at its annual training conference.

Drills and exercises are an important function of the BOHSEP.
Seven drills were conducted this year including:

Active Shooter tabletop and full-scale drill with a national non-profit retail outlet service center thrift store **in January.**

An active shooter regional full-scale drill with the Louisiana Military Dept. at Camp Minden was held **in May**, which helped support Barksdale AFB, Defenders of Freedom Air Show where an estimated 100,000 visitors attended.

In June, tabletop all-hazard exercises were conducted with Willis Knighton Bossier, with emphasis on tornado protective posture and post impact evacuation.

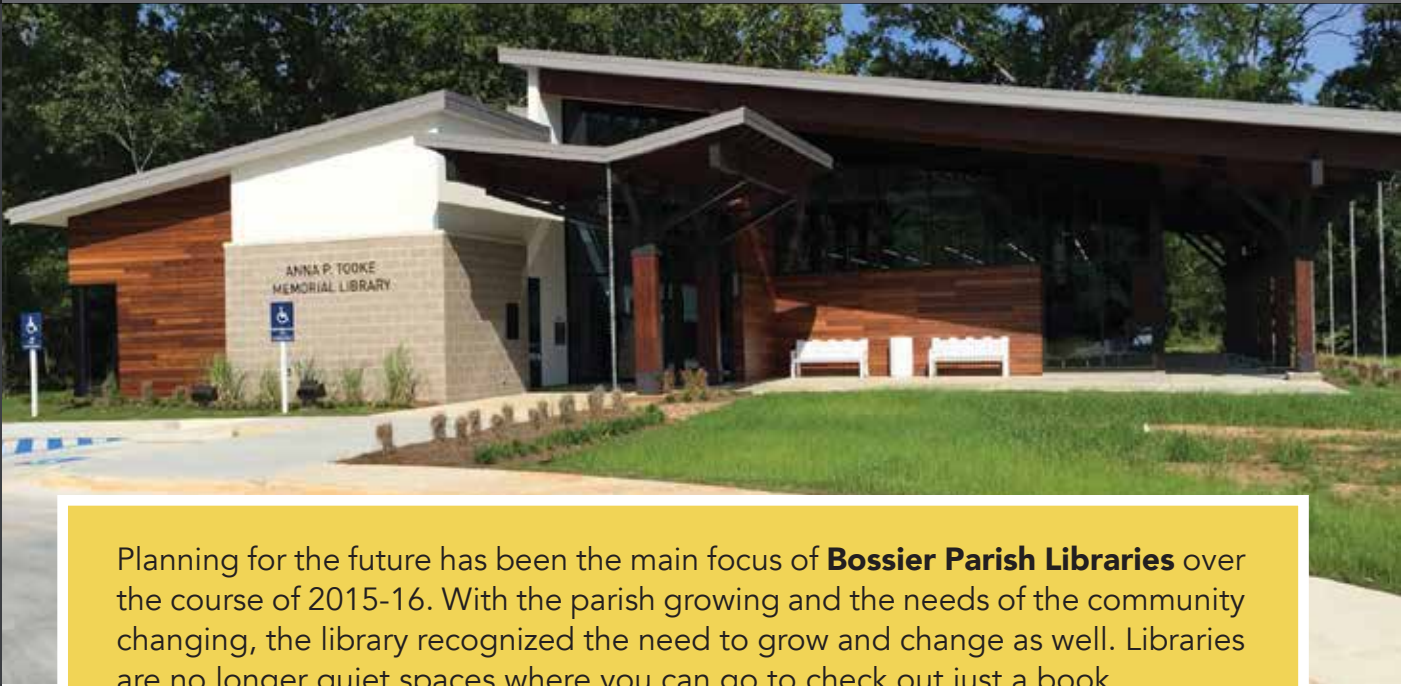
A U.S. Navy Reserve Center active shooter drill was held **in July.**

In February, a parish-wide active shooter drill was conducted at BPCC with more than 900 on-site role players and actors plus 22,000 students and teachers in 33 campuses conducting a concurrent lockdown drill.

A full-scale active shooter drill for a small community setting in a large rural church was conducted **in August.** More than 300 actors and players, and more than 40 first responders, were involved. Responders participated in a 90-day process to refine all hazards response on a large church campus with emphasis on active shooter threats.

From lessons learned in both 2015 and 2016, Police Jury President Wanda Bennett identified a need for a multi-jurisdictional **Emergency Operations Center (EOC)** core staff that could be deployed. EOC core staff will include experienced law enforcement, logistics, information technology, purchasing and other responder skills. This will enhance the ability of the BOHSEP director and deputy director by giving them a full incident command general staff capability for **sustained 24-hour shifts.**

Director of BOHSEP is Ian Snellgrove. Assistant Director is Lt. Col. (Ret) Gene Barattini.



Planning for the future has been the main focus of **Bossier Parish Libraries** over the course of 2015-16. With the parish growing and the needs of the community changing, the library recognized the need to grow and change as well. Libraries are no longer quiet spaces where you can go to check out just a book.

Libraries are now technology hubs, collaboration spaces and are committed in taking a leadership role in their communities. Despite what many think, libraries are not going away any time soon because we are learning to adapt to the ever-changing world around us.

In the Spring of 2015, the new Anna P. Tooke Memorial Library opened to replace the Koran Branch for the residents of Koran and Elm Grove. The new library boasts almost 3,000 square feet of collection space, areas dedicated solely for children and teens, a computer lab, meeting room, playground and walking path.

The Koran Branch was a small trailer that was open only one day a week and could not offer many services due to limited space

and operating hours. The new library can now accommodate the residents of that area with increased hours and a larger space to offer more collection items and programs.

Our next building project is to renovate and expand the Central Library. With the building being 30 years old, it is no longer functional for a 21st century library. In the Fall of 2016, the library purchased a building that will house administrative and support services. Currently these departments are housed at Central. By moving them out of Central, it will open up those areas to renovate for public use.

The original renovation plan was to keep administrative and support services at Central and expand the building to three stories, which would have been extremely

costly. With the new plan, the administrative building and renovation of Central combined, will cost less than half of what was originally thought, and will therefore save the taxpayers millions of dollars.

Our library's vision is to be Bossier Parish's leading source of information and learning to enable our communities to imagine, explore and discover the world. In 2016, a strategic plan was created and will focus on supporting informed, educated and entertained communities through a variety of services, classes, community partnerships and technology.

Our newly formed Community Engagement Department will take the lead role in ensuring that our strategic plan is carried out. By sending librarians out into

the community instead of staying within the four walls of our buildings, we can get to know our citizens much better. Our goal is to create services and classes centered solely on the needs and wants of our parish residents.

Community partnerships are key to the success of any public library. We have many great partnerships in the parish and a few "outside the box" partnerships that have been established this past year. We partnered with the Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office Corrections Division in order to provide a laptop and private

space for families with an incarcerated loved one to have the opportunity of video visitation.

We've partnered with the Flying Heart Brewery where the library hosts a 21 and over book club each month. This has been very popular and has helped change the stereotypical image of a library. A partnership with Sci-Port to provide free passes for checkout has been beneficial to and fun for many families.

Since technology has changed the way libraries serve their patrons, we've looked into ways to keep up with the changing

world around us. We've increased our digital content in e-books, e-audiobooks, e-comics, digital magazines, streaming videos of TV shows, documentary films and movies, and streaming music. Next we will be offering Wi-Fi hotspots for checkout as well as launchpads which are self-contained mini tablets that offer a variety of educational games and fun.

We are proud of our library system and the innovative ways we serve our parish. We have seven branches throughout the parish and one history center. We welcome everyone to visit us.



Police Jury member Bob Brotherton holds the big scissors during the ribbon cutting ceremony at the parish library system's new Anna P. Tooke Memorial Library in Koran. The library's architects won a major award for the design of the building.

The Bossier Parish Police Jury's Department of Public Works is responsible for the design, construction and maintenance of roads, bridges and drainage systems throughout the parish (outside of municipalities).

The department also manages engineering, subdivision plan review and approval, property standard violations, mosquito control, animal control, road mowing, signage, commercial vehicle enforcement unit and building permits.

All departments are located in the parish seat of Benton

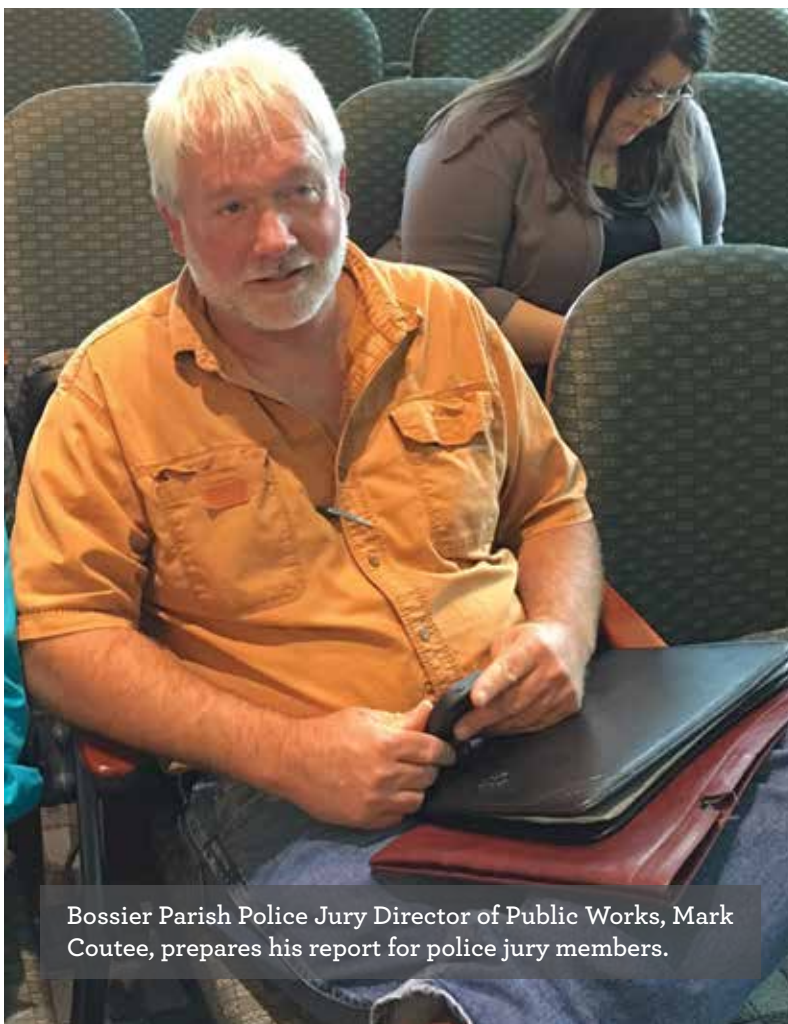
and are dispatched to work locations every morning. Public works employees maintain over 700 miles of gravel and paved roads and 116 local bridges.

The Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit (CVEU) assists in controlling and regulating overweight and oversized vehicles traveling on parish roads and bridges.

In March of this year, Bossier Parish experienced a record flood event. The Public Works department worked 24 hours daily to respond to all the roads and bridges damaged during this event.

The department was also responsible for removing all the debris from more than 200 homes in the parish that received flood damage.

Plans for projects designed to help move Bossier Parish's growing population safely and quickly from one place to another are continuing. The Swan Lake Road project should be ready in the Fall for Phase One for clearing and grubbing and utility relocation from I-220 to the Flat River Bridge, a distance of approximately three miles.



Bossier Parish Police Jury Director of Public Works, Mark Coutee, prepares his report for police jury members.

Functions of the parish Public Works Department include:

- Construction/Building Permits
- Floodplain Management
- Storm Water Management
- Capital Improvements
- Property Standards
- Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit
- Highway Department (Streets and Drainage)
- Mosquito Control
- Animal Control

Sandbags hold back flood waters on a rising Red Chute Bayou.



Bridges in the parish took a beating during the 2016 floods and numerous replacement projects were necessary.



Parish inmates lend helping hands filling sandbags during the 2016 flood.



A parish highway department crew overlays a subdivision street.



(From left) Heath Lyles, Operations, and Jim Firth, Director of Purchasing.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

- To provide a centralized, value-based efficient purchasing service to all parish departments for the procurement of materials, equipment and services of the best quality and the best price.
- To ensure purchasing policies and procedures are followed to maintain consistency in procurement practices and in compliance with Federal, State and Local laws.
- To promote a competitive, fair, and impartial environment throughout the vendor community.



Butch Ford talks with a couple whose home flooded during this year's weather event.

Over time, significant progress has been made in making the procurement process efficient. The Purchasing Department continues to seek additional improvements to the procurement process by becoming more involved with internal customers and by gaining a better understanding of their needs.

The Purchasing Department is responsible for providing material and services for the unincorporated areas outside of all municipalities. It is helpful to look at some of the functions of the Police Jury in order to understand what must be purchased to fill its needs.



THE POLICE JURY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

Maintenance of buildings and facilities which require janitorial supplies and equipment, plumbing and electrical products, lights and controls, HVAC equipment, office machines and supplies, and filing, printing and mailing equipment

Offices which require furniture, computers and related equipment and telecommunications equipment

Institutions which require personal and professional services, medical supplies and equipment, clothing, bedding, food and food processing items

Parks and grounds which require landscape maintenance equipment, fencing, seed, plantings, and fertilizer

Car and truck fleets which require fuel and lubricants, replacement parts, tires, batteries, and body and engine services

Roads and highways which require road material, signs, markers, bridge materials and heavy equipment

Correctional Facilities and public safety operations which require communications equipment, uniforms, medical supplies and services

Design of buildings, roads and facilities which require architectural, engineering and environmental services



The Bossier Parish Purchasing Department generates **THOUSANDS OF PURCHASE ORDERS** annually resulting in **MILLIONS OF DOLLARS** in expenditures in support of the day to day operations of the Bossier Parish Police Jury.

With an eye toward providing the best recreational opportunities for Bossier Parish families, the Bossier Parish Police Jury established the **Parks and Recreation Department** and hired retired coach Warren Saucier to head the programs and facilities.

After only a few short months, recreational facilities in the parish have been upgraded. **Some of the accomplishments include:**

- At the Bossier Parish War & Space Veterans Memorial Park adjoining Tall Timbers Subdivision on U.S. Hwy. 80 in Haughton, public bathrooms were constructed, the playing field was laser leveled and reseeded, and old mulch and dirt were removed from playground area and replaced with new mulch. A new shade cover was installed over playground equipment and the complex sports a new sign.
- Lawson "Bo" Brandon Sports Complex in Princeton now has new benches installed in new dugouts and infields of fields were brought back up to level by adding dirt and field conditioner to aid in drying the fields. New fields were laser leveled and additional top soil was added, the new fields and the soccer field were seeded and erosion problems in ditches were removed and the ground was reseeded.



- Irrigation was installed on the four soccer fields at the South Bossier Park off Caplis-Sligo Rd.
- At the Parish Camp on Lake Bistineau, 30-foot poles were placed in the entrance to the launch from the lake to hold a boom in place to stop the salvinia from blocking the launch. Also, lights will be installed at the boat launch and parking lot.

These were specific projects that the Police Jury's Parks and Recreation Committee wanted accomplished.

Functions at South Bossier Park, included lacrosse practice, games, and tournaments, and the baseball and softball fields were used for practice by local coaches and teams. Several cross country meets were held at the park including a very successful and well-attended regional meet sponsored by Parkway High School.

At Lawson "Bo" Brandon Sports Complex, the 2016 Dixie League baseball/softball season was conducted from March through June. The Tall Timbers Park new playground area has been well utilized by families, and adults are using the walking track. The new bathroom facility has been an asset for the park.

The Parish Camp has available a primitive camping site for citizens, as well as a public boat launch that is even accessible during lake drawdowns.

The recreation department has been diligent in maintaining the parks in order to provide the best facilities for the citizens of Bossier Parish.

Projects on the wish list for 2017 include infields on baseball and softball fields at the South Bossier Park and an irrigation system for baseball/softball fields. Also included on the wish list is the completion of infields for the new fields installed with field conditioner at the Lawson "Bo" Brandon Sports Complex, along with sewer lines for future con-

cession and bathroom facilities. Additional parking near the existing bathrooms, portable restrooms for the new fields and preparation of the fields for use is a goal.

At the Parish Camp, the parking lot needs to be reworked and a project to clear and clean along

the existing fence line on the west side of the park and landscape trees is on the drawing board. There is also a need for irrigation for playing field at the Tall Timbers Park.



One of the playing fields at Lawson "Bo" Brandon Sports Complex is cleared and leveled by a parks and recreation worker.

SECTION 8 HOUSING AUTHORITY



Jury members and parish attorney Patrick Jackson prepare to receive information at a road committee meeting.

Bossier Parish's Section 8 Housing Authority's mission is to serve the needs of low-income, very low-income, and extremely low-income families in the Housing Authority's jurisdiction.

Our mission is the same as the Department of Housing and Urban Development: to promote adequate and affordable housing, economic opportunity, and a suitable living environment free from discrimination.

The Bossier Parish Section 8 Housing assists low-income families with safe, decent, and affordable housing opportunities as they strive to achieve self-sufficiency and improve the quality of their lives. We are committed to operating our program in an efficient, ethical, and professional manner. We strive to create and maintain strong partnerships with our clients and appropriate community agencies in order to accomplish our mission.

The Bossier Parish Section 8 Housing Authority's contract with the Department of Housing and Urban Development is for approximately four million dollars annually for rental assistance payments.

Our office is currently allocated 893 Housing Choice Vouchers and 647 vouchers are being used to assist families from our waiting list. The additional 246 vouchers are being used to assist homeless veterans who have been referred to us by the Overton Brooks U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Executive Director of Section 8 Housing is Kenneth Starnes.



(From left) Monica Grappe (right of way division), Parish Engineer Butch Ford, Administrative Assistant Rachel "Rae" Graves and Assistant Engineer Nguyen Kha.



(From left) Legal Assistant to the Parish Attorney, Ashley Ezell; Police Jury Secretary Rachel Hauser, Assistant Secretary Jessica Aldridge and Receptionist Kathy Earnest.



Director of Human Resources, Lisa Wilson.

1980's

In the early 1980's, Dr. L. V. Landry, Director of Public Health for Bossier Parish, Red River Parish and DeSoto Parish, began a campaign to get the Bossier Parish Police Jury to work toward creating a Sewerage District along the Highway 80 corridor east of Bossier City. Dr. Landry believed extensive residential development in that area was causing an impact on the environment and on public health. The Jury took no action by the time of his death in 1978.

2004-2011

The Consolidated Waterworks/Sewerage District No. 1 (first called the Consolidated Sewerage District No. 1) was formed by the Bossier Parish Police Jury **in 2004**. It took seven years of dedicated work by the Jury, parish engineer, consultants and district personnel to actually get things evaluated, planned and started. The District began acquiring systems **in December, 2011**.

2016

Fast forward to mid-2016. Contracts 1, 2 and 3, encompassing the Highway 80 corridor from Red Chute to Princeton, are in final stages of completion. Contract A is a 12-mile long, 24- to 30-inch force main from the east side of Red Chute Bayou, across Bossier Parish north of Bossier City, to the new plant site near Cash Point off Benton Road, north of Bossier City.

Contract B is the Pumping Station near Hillcrest needed to pump the 12-mile distance. All have been completed this year. The three million gallon per day (3 MGD) treatment plant is complete with a few details yet to be finalized, but has been functioning **since July, 2016**.



Construction of a major force main/collection system is moving north along Benton Road and turning east on Kingston Road toward a major pumping station near the new Kingston Crossing Apartments. Gravity mains will work east to Airline Drive and as far north as Linton Road.

The force main from the Edwards Subdivision lift station will be re-directed to the manhole at the Linton Road and Palmetto Road/Airline Drive intersection. This project sets the stage for future development from Kingston Road north (along Palmetto Road, east on Deen Point Road) and south on Airline Drive. Additional capacity has been engineered into this system for expansion.

It is also anticipated that the Bossier Parish School Board is considering construction of a new Benton High School north of Kingston Elementary School for which we also have the capacity.

So far, the district has borrowed **\$11.8 million** in General Obligation Bonds, obtained a **\$17.75 million** loan from the LDEQ State Revolving Loan Program, and an additional **\$10 million** loan from the LDEQ SRL Program. We received an

additional **\$15.5 million** from the State of Louisiana Legislative Capital Outlay Program for the Treatment Facility and engineering.

The District also has an additional **\$10 million** loan package available from the LDEQ SRL Program for further expansion. All of the LDEQ SRL loans are at a 0.95% interest rate. The Capital Outlay money was our tax dollars coming back to Bossier Parish.

Without the low interest loans and the Capital Outlay money these projects would probably not have been accomplished. It took hard work and the “never give up” attitude of the Bossier Parish Police Jurors, the Bossier Parish engineer, district personnel and our Bossier Parish legislators, many years to make all of this happen.

This has been quite an accomplishment, and Bossier Parish has been recognized by the LDEQ as the first parish to begin building a parish-wide Sewerage Collection and Treatment System in the State of Louisiana.

Larry Landry, son of Dr. L.V. Landry, is director of the jury's Consolidated Waterworks/Sewerage District No. 1.



Police Jury member Jack “Bump” Skaggs inspects sandbags on the Red Chute Bayou levee.

OUR TOTAL FOR THE PROJECT IS **APPROXIMATELY \$55 MILLION**, THE LARGEST PROJECT EVER UNDERTAKEN BY BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY.

A BIRD'S EYE VIEW

OF DEVELOPMENT IN BOSSIER PARISH



TALL TIMBERS PARK

Officially, it's known as the **War & Space Veterans Memorial Park** but to the thousands of residents who use the facilities it is simply the Tall Timbers Park on Hwy. 80 east of Red Chute. This year, a new **restroom facility** was added to the complex (blue roof on left in foreground) along with a **second pavilion** (red roof) to give kids a shaded play area. The baseball and football practice area inside the park's walking track was leveled and seeded this year.

SOUTH BOSSIER PARK

One of the **crown jewels** in the Bossier Parish Police Jury recreation department is the South Bossier Park, located off Caplis Sligo Rd. The park features **playing fields** for a number of sports including baseball, softball, football, soccer and lacrosse. The site has been host to a number of local and regional cross-country meets.



LAWSON "BO" BRANDON SPORTS COMPLEX

The Lawson "Bo" Brandon Sports Complex in Princeton is already home to youth baseball and softball and continues to grow. At the top are the existing fields that have hosted **district and regional tournaments**, and in the foreground are **four new fields** that should be ready for play in 2017.

ART TRAIL TERMINUS

An extension to the multi-purpose trail beside the Arthur Ray Teague Parkway is nearing completion. In this shot, the trail terminus at the Red River National Wildlife Refuge boat launch is shown in the foreground. Cost of the approximately one-mile project is **\$1.2 million**, provided by the Red River Waterway Commission.



TREATMENT PLANT

Bossier Parish now has its own wastewater treatment system and the plant, located north of Bossier City off La. Hwy. 3, is up and running. The plant is part of a **\$55 million system** that eventually will service Bossier Parish outside city and town corporate limits. The system has already proved to be an economic development stimulus.



CIC, CSRA, STEM

The Cyber Innovation Center (top right) has been an impetus for technological growth in the 3,000 acre National Cyber Research Park in Bossier City. CIC is **nationally recognized** for its programs and contributions to cyber research. CSRA officially dedicated its **96,000 square foot** Integrated Technology Center (top left) and will ultimately be home to **800 technology** oriented employees. In the foreground is the STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) building that will provide opportunities for a new **economic development leg** for Bossier Parish.



“In appreciation of all Law Enforcement
Officers and First Responders”

